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CONFIDENTIALCENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Switzerland

SUBJECT English Summary of "Über Die Verwendung von
Rauschdrogen (Mekalin und Lysergessurediäthyramid) in
der Psychotherapie."PLACE ACQUIRED
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SUPP. TO
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1. The subject article by H Kunz and F Schottlaender appearing in "Psyche", 6:342-364, 1953 - 1954, is interesting but does not add much to what is already known. It has been clearly established that d-lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD-25) produces weird psychological changes when administered to humans. The author's descriptions of resultant dreams or state of intoxication follow the same patterns as outlined by other investigators. It is interesting to note that LSD-25 is usually more effective than mescaline in bringing out remembrance. What is disturbing to us is that neurotic humans have been given LSD-25 when so little is known about possibly damaging effects -- both physiological and psychological. In our estimation there has not been enough experimentation on animals, either in the US or in Europe, to warrant the use of LSD-25 on human subjects. However, subject article, quoted in summary below, is further evidence that LSD-25 has a potential as a BW agent or as a drug which would be useful in the interrogation of military or political prisoners.
2. "During the last decades the narcotics called 'phantastica', especially hashish (marihuana) and mescaline (manufactured by Merck, Darmstadt) have often been examined as to their effects. Recently, another narcotic of this group, lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD XXV), has also become known. This is" synthetically produced from ergot by Sandoz AG, Basel. These narcotics have, as yet, only rarely been used therapeutically, having been investigated almost exclusively from pharmacological and psychopathological points of view. After having experimented with mescaline and LSD XXV, in the usual manner, the author tried to utilize them for psychotherapeutic purposes. In the course of his first experiments he noticed that the state of intoxication so produced was meaningful and significant, its contents being similar in character to those of dreams. Each period of intoxication brought out particular characteristics of the person upon whom the experiment was made; it seemed to be an attempt to present and to solve his important problems.

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3. "As the author proceeded to use these two narcotics in practical psychotherapy, he observed that his patients, in their respective states of intoxication -- as in their dreams --, generally produced just those contents that were at the time ripe for expression and for transformation in the direction of cure. The intoxication itself was even part of the therapeutic process, it was an abreaction, a transmutation; or it served a similar function. Naturally, its course could sometimes be conjectured, but never exactly predicted; it could not be influenced by suggestion.
4. "The intoxication produced by mescaline (0.3 -- 0.5 g is the appropriate dose) lasts about five hours, the one produced by LSD XXV (average dose: 40 -- 60 y), four to five hours. The therapeutic significance begins during the third hour and reaches its climax in the fourth. In many cases, the surroundings of the patient change to him, they become pleasant or even magnificent, or, on the other hand, ghoulish and threatening, the aspects usually rapidly alternating. But generally, other phenomena are of greater importance: visual experiences of the patient while keeping his eyes closed, coloured pictures of all kinds, and, furthermore, manifold experiences of bodily transformation. All these phenomena are either purely symbolic in character, or represent childhood memories; they, too, often appearing in symbolized form. Many of them are accompanied by more or less violent emotions corresponding to the respective problems. The recollections can go back as far as very early childhood, sometimes even to the moment of birth. The patient is able to remember the experiences made during his intoxication to a large extent, and they may be discussed with him a few days later.
5. "The indications for a treatment of this kind must be strictly defined. It is only to be justified in cases of strong inhibitions, when other psychotherapeutic methods are of no avail and the therapeutic process threatens to come to a standstill. In some cases, several intoxications are necessary; an interval of a few weeks should pass before repetition. Generally, the intoxication is very effective in relaxing the patient and reducing his psychological barriers. Failures occur; damaging effects have not been observed. Particular circumspection is indicated with very anxious patients or patients suspect of schizophrenia. The physician must have submitted to an intoxication himself to be able to realize its possible effects. The effect of mescaline is stronger and more overwhelming; LSD XXV is usually more effective in bringing out remembrances. This report is based on experiences won from more than 100 intoxications, administered mainly to neurotic patients."

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